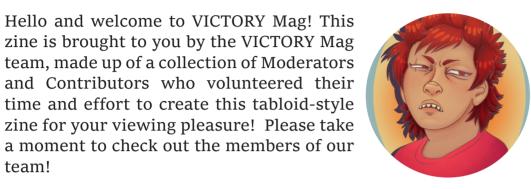


#### MEET THE EDITORS

Hello and welcome to VICTORY Mag! This zine is brought to you by the VICTORY Mag team, made up of a collection of Moderators and Contributors who volunteered their time and effort to create this tabloid-style zine for your viewing pleasure! Please take

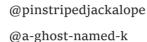


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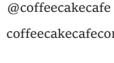






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# MIND JACK: ORIGIN By Deafmic

Shinsou Hitoshi, UA's favorite hero-hopeful, is well on his way to becoming the world's favorite underground hero! It's been a lifelong struggle for this underdog—from a childhood dreaming of being a hero to his schoolyard struggles against the stigma of a 'villainous' quirk, Shinsou has rebelled against a world that wasn't quite made for people like him and, in the process, has contributed to making sure people with quirks like his are more accepted.

Let's take a look at how the hero Mind Jack came to be—and where he came from.

"For as long as I can remember, I never wanted anything more than to become a hero," Shinsou tells us as he starts to talk about his very own origin story.

"I spent my entire childhood dreaming up Mind Jack and hoping there'd be a future where I could be like the heroes I saw on the television."

He laughs quietly— "I doodled his costume on my papers, even when I started at UA. I thought up the headlines I imagined myself featured in, even wrote stories about Mind Jack's adventures as a hero. I've always been a hero daydreamer. It's all I've ever wanted."

The road to heroics hasn't been a smooth one for Shinsou, though, and has been far bumpier than his classmates' own journeys. Unlike many other hero daydreamers, Shinsou's quirk had never been described as heroic, nor had it ever been described as good, helpful, or even powerful as a child. Brainwashing was very different from the typical emitter quirks, and there was one way that Shinsou had most often heard his quirk described, a word that would stick around in his head for years and years, never quite letting him forget—

"Villainous," Shinsou says, a little softer. "They always said it like it was some sort of curse.

They never let me forget it. It wasn't just the kids—
it was the teachers, other parents, and any kid or
adult that interacted with me. To me, it started to
seem like everyone held the subconscious belief that
someone's quirk was their personality. So if I had a
villainous quirk... that must mean I was a villainous
kid."

It's definitely true that some hold that belief, and it's not quite a secret, given that it's something that the infamous Meta Liberation Army based their beliefs on. Shinsou tells us about how he'd experienced a more subconscious degree of that belief in his childhood and how it had changed the way people looked at them.

"Some people still look at me that way," Shinsou adds with another small laugh. "Interviewers, especially. Not you, of course, but people who aren't used to me. I don't think people even realize what biases they hold against people with quirks like mine."

In his childhood, Shinsou says he often got the same reaction to his quirk: hesitation and sudden coldness, as they were suddenly on guard around him. He insists that in a way, he understands this reaction, and that he's taken the last few years to try to sympathize a little with those who rejected him in his younger years. After all, he says, he had the power to take total control over someone and make them do whatever he wanted. What else could a person like that be except villainous?

But our hero-hopeful never considered using his quirk for negative purposes. In fact, quite the opposite. According to him and everyone around him, there was nothing Shinsou Hitoshi wanted more than to become a hero, even with his widely considered 'villainous' quirk.

That want stayed with him through the years, as he became older and, by his own admission, more and more cynical and jaded to the world around him and the beliefs it held. But, like the favored soon-to-be hero that we know and love, he kept going and that want to be a hero refused to leave and always sat at the back of his mind reminding him of how much he dreamt of being like the pro-heroes that surround our society.

That want was what brought him to the gates of UA on the day of his entrance exam though even Shinsou says he wasn't sure why he'd come at the time.

"I'm not sure why I took the exam on that day." Shinsou shrugs with a sigh, looking almost as if he wants to change the subject. "Did I think I'd pass? Absolutely not. The exam changes every year, you know, but it always fundamentally stays the same. The bottom line is that if you don't have a quirk that affects you or others physically, you can't pass it. Even my own mentor couldn't pass it, and he took the entrance exam ages ago."

Shinsou is correct in everything he says. Past UA entrance exam records are public knowledge. The test changes each and every year, but some things stay the same. Most notable is the fact that students with non-physical or psychological quirks are very unlikely to pass. Critics of UA have pointed this out in the past, but it remains an issue. Others say that since UA has policies in place that allow students to move into the hero course if they're deemed fit by faculty, it's an issue that doesn't need fixing. Shinsou is one of the students who happened to move from General Studies and into the Heroics course at UA—but it was a move that had taken him a lot of time, effort, and frustrations to complete.

Shinsou offers a full explanation when asked if he ever faltered— "I didn't exactly ever think of giving up, no. During the first sports festival, though, after Deku beat me, I thought I was done for. I've never been the most... optimistic person, and I didn't really think I had a chance after that. I'm not really all logic

and cynicism as I like to appear, though. Logically, that should've been the end for me. Society did its job in squashing me down and destroying my dream. But I didn't give up. I don't know why. I'm glad I didn't."

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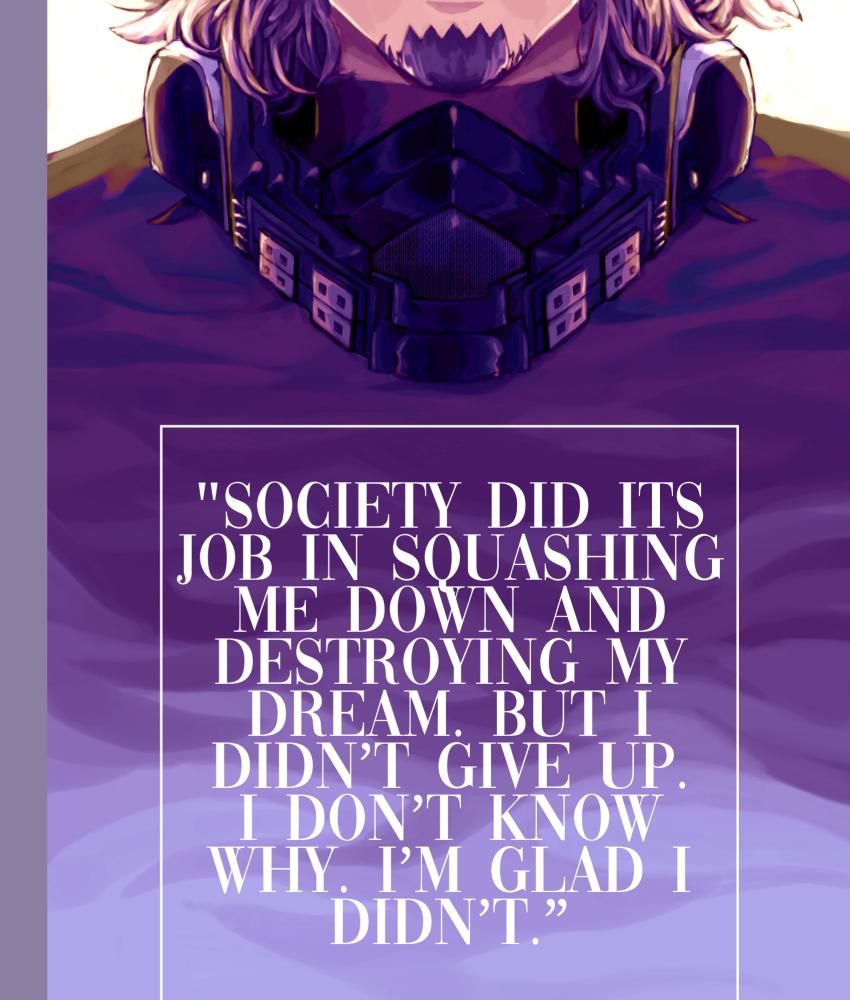
Shinsou lost in the third round of the sports festival in his first year at the prestigious UA, beaten by Midoriya "Deku" Izuku, another popular up-and-coming hero. Most of the nation cheered right alongside the crowd at the festival at Deku's shocking win.

It headlined online reporting sites, even earning its way into some newspapers. The world was excited and ecstatic that a Heroics student had crushed the boy with the brainwashing quirk.

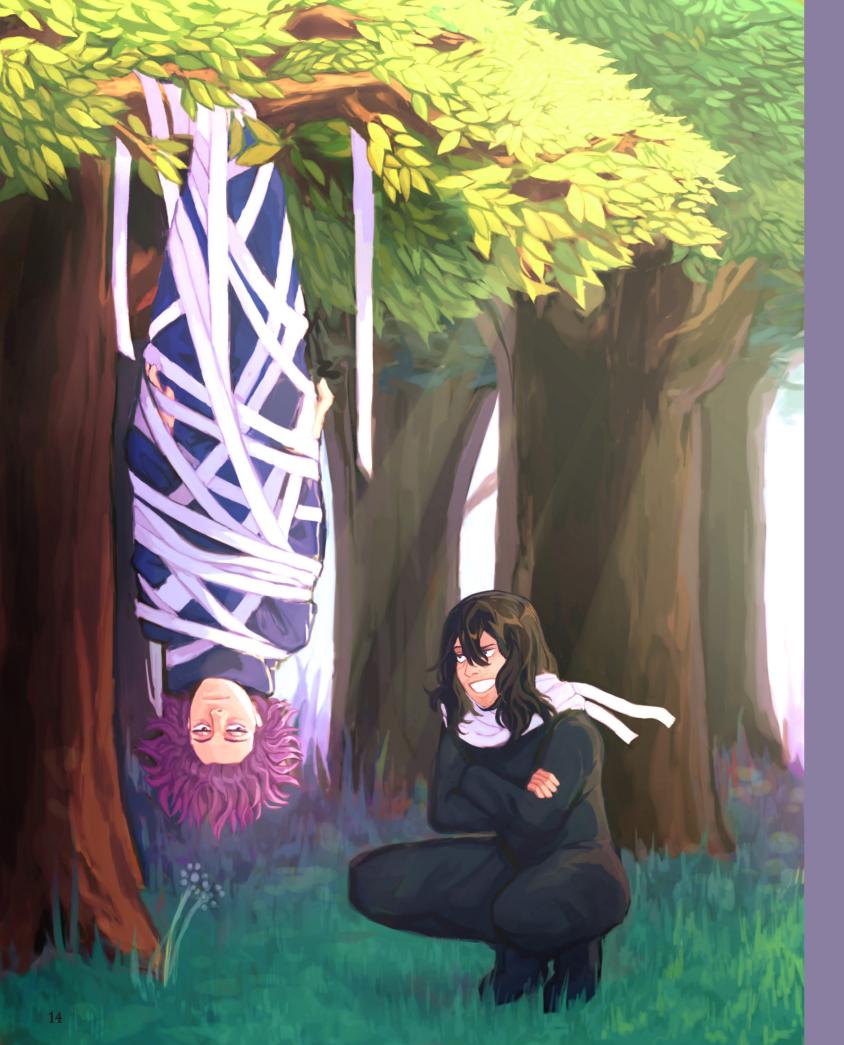
'UA's Heroics class student defeats brainwashing pseudo-villain!' One gossip site site reported. 'Is UA allowing just anyone into their sports festival now? Brainwashing boy manipulates his way into the finals!' Another read.

"I saw them," Shinsou tells us now. "I tried to stay away, but I saw them. It's fine. It's not like I wasn't expecting it."

UA's sports festival is a televised event, watched live by a good portion of the country. It's something people look forward to every year, and it's no secret that seeing a student like Shinsou featured was a first. General Studies students had made it past the first and even the second rounds of the sports festival in the past, but none were like Shinsou. Many people



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cheered and celebrated when he was tossed out of the ring by Deku, viewing it as a sort of hero defeating a stereotypical villain.

A smaller portion of the population viewed Shinsou and his advancement to the final round, as well as his defeat, in a different light.

Of the 80% of quirked people in Japan, reportedly less than 1% are those with quirks characterized as purely psychological.

"1%, really?" Shinsou's eyes widen as he's told this statistic. "I had no idea it was that few people."

Shinsou's quirk is one of the best examples of a quirk that is purely psychological in nature. It's a designation set by the Hero Commission Committee and revised every two years. Its definition has never strayed much and remains, in short: quirks which affect the mind, psychology, or the control a person has over their body, thoughts, or actions without the use of things or substances emitted from their body.

Shinsou's quirk has always fallen under this distinction. Shinsou's mentor, Eraserhead, also has a quirk that falls under this distinction, albeit a little less clear-cut than Shinsou's Brainwashing quirk.

Shinsou muses on this when brought up— "If you want the truth, that's probably the reason I didn't give up. It really meant something to me, seeing someone else who had a similar type of quirk to mine and was a successful hero. It wasn't like I had any idea how to train myself. I had to have a lot of help, and seeing someone who was a lot like me helped push me on. I guess I realized that I didn't have to take the world on alone."

While quirks like his belong to under 1% of current quirk users, that still makes up quite a few kids who are like Shinsou—a good number of whom probably have dreams and aspirations to be heroes. These are kids who have seen Shinsou in the sports festival, who have finally seen a hero on television

who has a quirk like them. They're kids who have previously been told that their quirks are villainous and it's impossible for them to become heroes.

No one can deny that Shinsou has played a very large part in the way some of society's views regarding psychological quirks have been changing. After all, it's hard to say that someone's quirk is villainous when they hold a full hero's license and are working hard as Mind Jack, the brainwashing hero. Even the more outspoken critics against those with nontraditional quirks becoming heroes have been silent on the topic of Shinsou and his status as one of the favored up-and-coming heroes of this new generation.

Shinsou is more than happy to offer his thoughts on this, as well:

"Popularity doesn't matter to me. It never has. That's never been my goal. I just want to help people and show everyone that my quirk is something that can be used to save others. No one's quirk is inherently villainous. That's not possible. What matters is what someone does with their quirk. If I can show just one kid that, or change just one person's mind, then it's all worth it."

Shinsou smiles as he gives us his final quote. There's no doubt that he's already accomplished his goals; society's perceptions of people like Shinsou have begun to change, and Shinsou is to credit for that. From a discouraged, pessimistic kid with a quirk most people considered 'villainous' to a well-loved and favored soon-to-be hero, Mind Jack is making waves and accomplishing all that he's set out to do.

While people with psychological quirks may make up less than 1% of quirk users, that's still many, many people, and those are people who deserve to have a hero like them, who can show them that they, too, can become heroes. Shinsou 'Mindjack' Hitoshi has the stage set for him to become a hero and role model for many, and the world waits with bated breath to see what he'll do next.























#### AN UNLIKELY TEAM-UP!

#### Bu Kiara

When a building collapsed in Musutafu, Pro Hero Battle Fist and Pro Hero Earphone Jack quickly rushed to the scene, forming an unlikely alliance between the two! Read more for interesting details, and an exclusive interview with the two heroes!

In the heart of Musutafu, many civilians were trying to enjoy a nice day at work at Shikatsu Corp when the disturbance of a quirk-based fight caused the building to collapse at approximately 11:32am. The two story building held around 89 working people at the time of the collapse, and heroes were immediately contacted.

"It was absolutely mad," - said Rui, a desk assistant at the time of the collapse. "One minute you were working like every other day, and the next the ceiling was starting to shake and the building was collapsing in on itself. I don't think I had ever been so scared."

Most heroes had been preoccupied with a rogue villain in another part of the city, leaving chaos and fear still spreading within the victims of the fallen building. But soon after the call of distress, Battle Fist arrived on the scene and lifted various parts of the fallen building, helping victims escape from where they had previously been trapped.

Around five minutes later, Earphone Jack quickly followed to the scene, and the two pro heroes began working together to rescue as many innocent services would arrive and assist them. The pair ended up rescuing a total of 37 people, before the fire department arrived and helped the two pros in

assuring every other person was rescued safely.

A total of 43 people were injured, and 26 were in bad condition, but thanks to the work of Earphone Jack and Battle Fist, there were no deaths and everyone is currently recovering safely. We hope to be seeing more out of these two soon!

Interview with Battle Fist and Earphone Jack! The two talk about their fantastic rescue, the true life of being a hero, and their journey to doing so.

Interviewer: That was a very successful rescue done by the two of you, bravo! Your teamwork was especially impressive!

Battle Fist: [laughs] Thank you! I owe it all to Earphone Jack, really. She really had my back there.

Earphone Jack: Oh stop it, she's too modest for her own good. Battle Fist was the one who held up the building to allow trapped victims to get out safely, that was all her!

**Interviewer:** I saw that, very impressive, Battle Fist! Your quirk really came in handy in this situation, didn't it? Battle Fist: I definitely won't take all the credit, but thank you! All the training from U.A really paid off. While yeah, my quirk is really cool in some situations, it's training that really took it to the next step. Even if your quirk isn't the most flashy, you've always got steps you can take to improve it.

training your quirk is a very important part of working to be a hero. What tips do you have on improving quirks? Battle Fist: I like to think of it as a

skill, rather than a natural talent. Like playing piano, or learning a sport. The more you do it, the more you'll improve, the better you'll get. Practice makes perfect! And I know it's way easier than it sounds. I mean, I saw so many of my friends get cool, strong quirks, and when mine first developed, yeah, I felt a little upset. I think we've all had those thoughts before, the 'why does he get such a cool quirk?' or 'she's so smart, if only I was as smart as she is!' Constantly comparing yourself to other people isn't going to help you grow—putting in the effort and staying determined will.

**Interviewer:** That's very well explained, Battle Fist! I'm sure our readers will all appreciate that, thank you. Now, Earphone Jack, back to your rescue today! Were you two expecting the

**Earphone Jack:** [laughs] No, not at all! I guess we both got the call from our agencies at the same time, and happened to make it to the scene. It was a pleasant surprise, though, and I feel we worked together really well.

**Interviewer:** I can confirm that you did! Have you two teamed up before? Battle Fist: No, we haven't! Back in high school Creati and I went on a few internships together, but that was the closest I got to teaming up with Earphone Jack.

Earphone Jack: Creati told me all about it though, and she said that you were an amazing partner. And yeah, though unfortunately we hadn't teamed up, I knew of Battle Fist both through our classes working together and against each other, she always had a way of being a natural leader for her class. It's her personality, her almost natural

leadership. I was more shy back then, so I really admired it.

**Interviewer:** Aww. Well, I'm glad you've broken out of your shell since then! Do you both hope to team up in the future?

Battle Fist: I'll definitely talk to my agency about it, we did work really well together! Maybe catch up outside of work and make up for the lost

Interviewer: That sounds lovely! So, back to some questions, what advice would you have for any aspiring heroes? Particularly since you both are female, and both such strong heroes, in such a hard environment. It's incredibly admirable!

**Earphone Jack:** There's no doubt that the hero industry is mostly male dominated. If we're being honest, so are most of the most popular jobs in Japan. But being a hero was always a dream of mine, and regardless of what was stopping me, that's what I wanted to pursue. To save people, to help those in need, that comes first, and I'm sure I can say the same for Battle Fist. My advice is just honestly, go for it. If you love it and you work hard enough, it doesn't matter how difficult it may be.

**Battle Fist:** I completely agree. I grew up a bit of a tomboy, if I'm honest, and I was always surrounded by boys, but that was what I chose. I was comfortable around them, more than I was around the girls. The main thing that kept me going when it got hard and the thing that keeps me going today, is to not let them underestimate you. Introduce yourself as strong, as that's all you'll be seen as. Once you've got their respect, their admiration? There is no way you're going to fall behind or be disadvantaged. We're all strong and capable women, and we're on the

18



same level that men are, regardless of what anyone says. We just need to recognise that, and that's what sets us back sometimes. Give yourself the credit you deserve. If you want to be a hero, if that's your dream, own that! Grab it with both hands and kick its a\*s! You've got what it takes! Just believe in yourself, work hard, and don't hold back. That's the attitude that I feel guided me through becoming a hero, the ups and downs of it all. Never doubt your potential, or your strength.

**Interviewer:** Wow, that's....that's very inspirational, Battle Fist. I'm sure many of our readers needed to be told that, thank you. Battle Fist: It's no problem at all, don't worry.

Interviewer: Thank you again. Okay, another question that's just me being curious. Battle Fist, you mentioned growing up as a bit of a tomboy. For the both of you, what was your life like growing up, if you don't mind me asking? What hobbies did you have, and was your goal always the same—to be a hero?

Battle Fist: Mine was pretty simple, I always liked to be a leader and help people, and I thought heroes were super cool. My parents were always supportive, and had a great attitude towards life. They really kept me going. And yes, once I'd heard about being a hero, that was immediately my life goal, and that didn't change once.

Earphone Jack: Well, I think my life was a little different? I mean, nothing too crazy. I don't think I actually made up my mind on that being my future career until I was 15, and enrolled in my first year at U.A. My family was always huge on music,

my father in particular, and the love for music and punk-rock definitely ran down to me. I was always listening to music, to bands, seeing performers live, playing whatever instrument I could get my hands on. For a while, my dream was to follow in my family's footsteps. To make music. To perform, to sing, to play guitar, to feel the thrill of performing. I performed a lot when I was younger, but it kind of drifted off, and my self-confidence was what held me back from that dream, honestly. Despite music always being my number one, I still loved the idea of heroes. But again, I didn't think I had what it takes. Applying for U.A was just me saying 'It doesn't hurt to try', but going to that school changed my life. It boosted my self-confidence, put me in some of the hardest situations I'd ever been in. It challenged me not only as a person, but a future hero, and I loved it. Fighting and winning gave me the same drive and thrill that performing did, and it had been so long since I'd had that feeling. Then later in the year, when I performed with my friends in 1-A in a band, that's when I decided I wanted to be a hero. It was hard for my parents to hear, and it was a hard decision to come to, but I haven't regretted it for a single second.

**Interviewer:** That's quite a backstory, Battle Fist, Earphone Jack. And we'll have to hear you perform one day, I'm sure you're absolutely incredible!

It's been an absolute honour talking to you both today, but I'll get out of your way now, as I'm sure you both are busy women. I can't thank you enough, hopefully we'll run into each other again soon!

# NEXT EXCLUSIVE



# PLUS ULTRA RESCUE



Our favorite fiery heroes got unexpectedly cuddly during a recent team-up. In between fighting flames and saving civilians, Ground Zero and Shouto found time to rescue an entire litter of kittens from a burning building! The kittens proved an instant hit with friends and fans alike, and have been making cameo appearances on the social media accounts of some of the industry's top young heroes! It's always a blast when the pros introduce new sidekicks...who knew these ones would be so purrfectly matched?













## HERO SHOUTO...

"It was interesting. I never expected to learn so much more than I already knew." Shouto stated, "It was fun staying in so many places, and helping those that needed it. I'm thankful for the heroes I was able to meet and team up with. And I'm thankful for old friends who were there to experience the travels with me. As for the haircut...

"We were both traveling, but we

in Australia."

I wanted a change. I grew it out from the beginning of this trip, and I thought to cut it to start fresh when I came back."

After a more than year long trip, Shouto says that he's ready for a small break before getting back to work to help those in Japan.

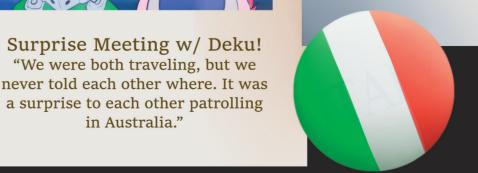
SHARING HIS ADVENTURES WORLDWIDE AFTER DRASTIC HAIRCUT!!!

After coming back from his trip, we were able to get a few statements from the icy-hot victor for information on how his travels went internationally, what it was like to work in a different environment to saving culturally different citizens, and why the sudden haircut of the lustrous locks.



Ingenium & Gale Force Help With Paris Disaster!

"I wasn't expecting to see them there. It was a surprise. But it was nice to have them there to help me with the situation at hand."



**DODDILY** 



Inko Midoriya is a modest woman, with a warm smile and soft, strong aura. If not for the telltale hair, few would guess she's the mother of one of Japan's rising stars on the hero scene. We sat down with the mighty matriarch, who shared some insights into the making of a hero (not to mention, the stress of mothering one)!

There's the standard small talk and tea, as I compliment Inko Midoriya on her lovely home (it's a clean and surprisingly simple highrise, only the advanced security system hinting at the importance of the family living here). Like his mentor All Might, Deku is a bit of a mystery before his arrival at UA. I can't wait to peek behind the curtain and learn more.

#### Thank you. This is a beautiful space. Did Pro Hero Deku grow up here?

Oh goodness, no. We lived in a much more modest complex back then. Nice people, good neighborhood, but the minute he started to climb the hero charts, my Izuku moved me over here. Something about security, and sleeping well knowing no evil-doers would be able to just walk in and cause Inko Midoriya stops herself with a chuckle and extrouble. I know all mothers must say this, but he really is a very good boy.

#### What was he like, growing up?

Just the light of my life. Always so eager to help everyone around him, always optimistic for the future. Why, he had this adorable little costume that he'd-





plains that she promised she wouldn't be too embarrassing with her answers.

Well anyway, suffice to say he had a lot of imagination. And drive to change the world.

#### So, I assume he always wanted to be a hero?

Did he ever! All he dreamed of was going to UA and following in the footsteps of his idol. Even when his dreams seemed impossible, my little hero kept fighting. And he did it! He really did it all...

#### You mentioned difficulties with his dream, growing up. Is it true that he was believed quirkless up until his entry to UA?

Yes, that's right. Around six or so, we started to worry. Everyone else was manifesting, and my happy little boy was still...just waiting. Waking up every morning, checking to see if he'd developed a power during the night. But every day...nothing.

There were specialists and appointments and a lot of bad news. A lot of belief that he wasn't ever going to develop a quirk, and that he couldn't hope to be a

#### That must have been devastating. For both of you.

I....didn't handle it well. I felt like I'd failed my baby. This person, who I swore I would protect from all the bad in the world, who I would do anything for...

And I'd failed him. I hadn't given him the thing he needed to follow his dream.

one

Mrs. Midoriya wrings her hands and dabs at her eyes. It's clear that even years later, those early scars have stayed with her.

#### But he ended up with an amazing quirk after all.

Yes, thank goodness. About six months before his high school entrance, he rededicated himself to getting into UA, even as a quirkless kid. And something in that training unlocked a power within him. A power that he's using to save the world.

We've all seen the news reports and interviews. Your son has certainly made his presence felt in high-stakes battles and rescues across Japan. What's it like to watch that, as his mother?

She laughs, with a great, gulping mirth that borders on the hysterical.

Do you want to know the truth?

It's terrifying! Every time my alert chimes, I pray that my baby isn't putting himself in harm's way. But well, you've seen him. Harm is just...his best friend. I used to scold him, about all the injuries and recklessness, but I suppose that's just part of being a hero.

Do you ever wonder what might have happened, if his quirk hadn't manifested? Ever dream of a world where he isn't in the thick of things?



While he was at UA? Constantly! I must have started the withdrawal paperwork half a dozen times. I mean, you remember what his class was like. But his teacher's helped me get over wishing that he'd stayed quirkless, stayed safe. Helped me realize his potential, and see his destiny. And now? Honestly, I think he'd have found a way to be a hero anyway. Even quirkless, impossible as that may seem. My Izuku has always had an unbreakable determination,

> career was always hero, his idol was always All Might. Having a quirk was...secondary...to

So I'm grateful for his powers. Even with the danger, and the broken bones, and the fear. Because my baby was always going to be a hero. But at least this way, he has powers and a squad capable of protecting him (while he's busy protecting everyone

At least that's what I tell myself, every time I see him in some new peril. No matter how I feel, he loves being a hero and he makes sure to do his best every day. It's his life goal, what brings him joy, even when times are hard, and who am I do hold him back from that?



#### WHO'S GOING TO PAY?

Sparks fly, again? As UA alumni discuss who will pay bill at local cafe.

It was 3:15 pm on a beautiful and leisure-filled Tuesday afternoon when a commotion erupted at a downtown cafe. Villains? Not this time.

Witnesses reported spotting a group of pro heroes devolving into an argument after finishing their after-work snack and-hey, wait, haven't we run this story before?

Every week it seems as if we have a report about Pro Hero Ground Zero literally lighting up in response to Pro Hero Deku offering to pay the bill.



Pictured (left to right): All Might, Deku, Uravity, Ground Zero, and Shouto

We looked into our archives and, lo and behold, found downtown destruction every first Tuesday of the month going back to the days of the infamous class 1-A.

Pictured above is a throwback to the very first Cafe Catastrophe. You can practically hear their little voices. "DEKUUU!" "K-KACH-CHAN?!"



The best of Pro Hero social media - ranked!



spa day with bakubabe <3 via @real\_ms\_illusions

We're a bit jealous of those cucumbers.

You can always count on Deku to keep you up to date

on how the Symbol of Peace is doing these days!

Don't worry, we had to do a double-take too!

3

via @invisiblegirl\_hero







Present Mic hit the stage again this weekend - lucky for us Midnight had a great view!

via @ms\_midnightofficial



via @eyyyyyyyyychargebolt

Keep an eye on Chargebolt's stories this week for updates on disaster relief in Bakura, as well as photos of those being rescued and the Pro Heroes in the area to help! You can find more information about relief efforts and donation needs at (800)555-5555.



#### THINGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT

#### PRO HERO, DEKU!

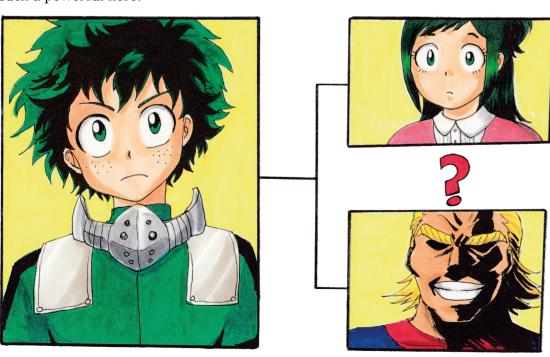
Today is a special day for all of us! Why, you ask? Well, we are going to delve into the private life of one of our favourite pro heroes, Deku himself! A big part of his life has been shrouded in mystery, but with a little bit of digging, a lot of interesting facts emerge. We've been through some of his history in our previous articles, but today we have something special. So stay tuned, and you might learn things that will surprise you!

First, let us go way back, back to his childhood. Not much is known, and we couldn't find sources available to comment, but it's safe to say that he must have had quite an interesting few years, after he got his quirk. We know how energetic children can be in general, and we can only imagine the trouble he got into with such a strong and versatile quirk. His poor mother, having to run after such a lively child... Yes, we can all praise her for giving us such a strong hero! But why are you telling me about his childhood, you may ask? We all know Deku would have had a typical childhood for a child with such a strong quirk... Wrong! Not everything is as it seems. There is a mystery there, and we are going to solve it together. We know all about his mother, the amazing woman who gave birth to such a powerful hero.

But the question remains... Who is Deku's father?

For this, we had to delve deep. Some of you might have heard of the official story, that he is one Midoriya Hisashi, who currently isn't living with his family. But that story is quite clearly and obviously wrong. An absentee father seems way too convenient, a typical hero's backstory - a thing that only the most naive of fans would believe! It's either a fake story or a coincidence, and we all know there are no such things as coincidences.

Our thoughts, of course, immediately go to one of our country's greatest heroes, All Might. His and Deku's quirks have numerous similarities, and with quirks being genetic, conclusions are easily drawn. And the two of them have been seen together in public on numerous occasions, recently not even trying to hide it. From that, having All Might be Deku's father almost seems like a foregone conclusion. But! What if that's what they want you to think? What if that's just another layer of their illusion, of their logical ruse? Some of the things do fit. Why make up a lie about Midoriya Hisashi, if there wasn't something that had to be hidden? Something like...



Deku?

We have gone through possible eerily similar to Deku's. A hero of them in the act! that had been popular for a long We are, of course, talking about one of our countries retired pro heroes, Gang Orca himself! Yes, the famous marine themed hero fits perfectly as the father of our favorite pro. The quirks are close, and although there aren't any obvious physical similarities, that can easily be explained by Deku taking after his mother, which we all know is true. And with Gang Orca being one of the top heroes, of course he wouldn't want to have his wife and child exposed to the world! Not yet, at least. He conveniently avoids all questions about his family in interviews, but we're hoping that with Deku becoming a hero in his own right, they'll come clean about their familial relationship.

What do you think about Deku's origins? Do you agree? Send us your thoughts, and we'll publish the likeliest theories!

Now, let's move on. The second thing that every Deku fan knows about is his closeness to one of the other top heroes, Ground Zero. There are theories about how the two great heroes secretly dislike each other, but we know better. One of our sources divulged that the two of them went to the same middle school before UA, and that they were clearly best friends, even back

Deku being an illegitimate child. then. They knew each other before school, growing up together. And of Child of one of the top heroes course they were close friends! Two boys with such strong quirks would from back then, to be exact. That obviously gravitate towards each other from a young age, which was the would fit the All Might theory, case here. They stayed friends throughout early schooling, and later on but again, that's too easy, too decided to go to the best hero school together. Our source speculates that obvious. So, whose child is they might have requested to be in the same class in UA, as they were so reluctant to separate. They've hidden their friendship from the public, used a logical ruse to hide it, but nothing gets past us!

pro heroes, and one of them However, their ruse might become reality, as there seems to be trouble stuck out. A hero with in paradise. What could separate such a strong, heroic friendship, a unmatched strength, speed and friendship that has lasted years? Why, a thing that has divided many a durability, with a quirk that is man before - a woman. Our amazing photographers have caught the two

time, even around the time Deku The girl might look like a regular fan asking for an autograph, but our was born. Who would that be? source, close to the girl herself, reveals



that she knows both of them closely. The paper, which is clearly not just a simple autograph, is probably a love note from one of them. If you look closely, you can see hidden jealousy on their faces, as they both try to gain her attention. Lucky girl, having two of our country's top heroes fighting over her. Lucky, indeed!

Who will she choose? And will this love triangle finally break the long-lasting friendship between the two heroes? We'll answer some of these questions in the follow-up article, so stay tuned!

Now, onto our third piece of important Deku trivia. Sadly, we might have bad news for some of you, as we know a lot of you are fans of the famous Deku, Uravity, and Ingenium friendship. And who wouldn't be? They can be seen on numerous occasions together, on friendly lunches and fun outings, discussing their private lives or laughing together. They are often collaborating on hero patrols or giving joint interviews. They seem close, very close, but we all know not everything is always as it seems, especially in the world of top heroes. So we of course had to delve deeper into this friendship.

Our first thought was that the friendship was a ruse to hide a relationship between two of them, but with a little digging we have determined that that is not the case. Deku, as previously mentioned, has his

eyes set on someone else, while Uravity and Ingenium don't seem interested in each other romantically. And sadly, we must inform you that not only are they not interested in each other romantically, they might not be interested in each other, at all. There are high chances that this friendship might be just for publicity. They've tried to hide it, but the story just sounds a little too convenient. The three of them meeting at UA and immediately forming a long-lasting friendship? Sorry, but that's not likely, especially since we know that Deku already has a close friend and confidant in Ground Zero. And it is a sad truth that a lot of heroes have to do things for publicity, which seems to be the case here. While we can't say that there is outright hate between the three of them, in the picture below (captured by one of our photographers) you can clearly see the antipathy hidden in their gazes when looking at each other. We're sorry to have to disappoint our loyal readers and fans, but the truth seems to be that our trio is not so close, after all.

And that's all the news that we have for today, folks. Hopefully you've enjoyed this little peek into the life of pro hero Deku. It might seem impossible to distinguish fact from fiction in the amazing and mysterious lives of heroes, but if you follow our lead you'll soon discover that it isn't as hard as it appears. Send us your theories and we'll publish our favorites right here!







# EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH THE EVERYTHING HERO: CREATI

By: invisible-light789 (Alex)

Recently I had the pleasure and privilege of conducting a short interview with the Everything Hero: Creati, also known as popular UA graduate Momo Yaoyorozu. I was able to ask her a few questions about what it is like in the daily life of a pro hero and her relations with her former classmates.

Q: It's been a few years now since you graduated from UA. Do you still keep in contact with your former classmates, like the pro heroes Ground Zero and Shouto? A: Yes, we're still all very close friends. Earphone Jack and I just went out to lunch yesterday after we saved that train from a villain attack. We work really well together so we often do cases together, and Chargebolt works well with Earphone Jack so he comes along a lot. I've noticed that our class has split into groups that have complementary quirks, and though those groups change often depending on who is around during a fight, it's just something interesting. But long story short, yes we all do keep in contact and we often meet up just to have fun sometimes. Those days are always fun and remind me of our school days.

**Q:** Speaking of Earphone Jack, you two have been noticed to be very close beyond just resolving crises together. Just yesterday after that lunch you were talking about, reporters saw you entering the same apartment building together.

Do you live in the same building perhaps? How exactly would you define your relationship with her?

**A:** We share an apartment, and we have since we graduated. We're just very close best friends, you know, I guess that's how I would define us. I probably know her better than anyone else, so yeah, I'd just say we are extremely close friends.

**Q:** Changing subjects here, how do you recover from hard battles like the one last week against that fire villain? Even the hero Shouto was having trouble with his ice and it took multiple pro heroes to take down the villain after countless people had been injured. Obviously, every battle can't be as easy as the train situation yesterday, so how do you deal with the harder ones?

**A:** We do our best to stick together after the particularly bad battles and make sure we've done absolutely everything we can before we leave. Usually by then most of our class has gathered together to fight the villain, so we go to someone's home to recover - that's usually mine and Jirou's or Midoriya's. We patch each other up and if someone is feeling really bad about someone they weren't able to save, which there's always someone we were too late getting to during those battles, there's always someone we have regrets about not being able to get to, but we always try to comfort each other as best we can and tell them that we did all we could.

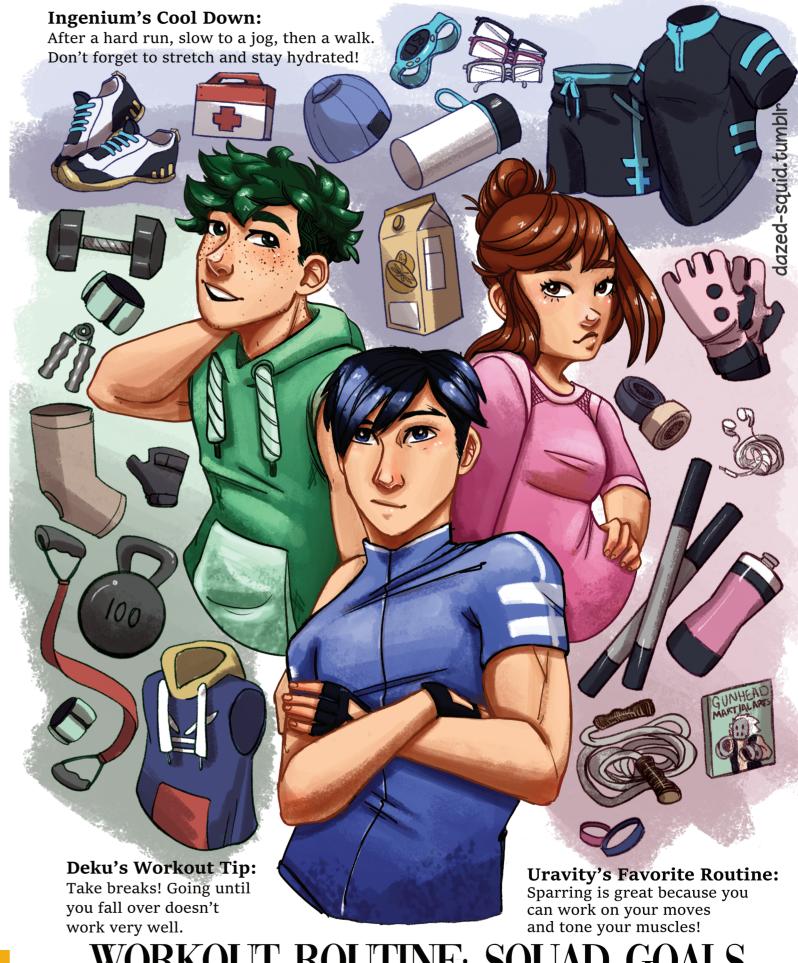


Q: What is your daily schedule like, as a pro hero?

**A:** I'd like to think it's about like anyone else's. I sleep in too late like everyone else and I go to meetings like everyone else, though I guess the meetings aren't the kind of thing everyone would experience. I have to meet with the police often to discuss charges against villains and there are always lots of trials I have to go to in order to make sure the villains face justice. I almost became a lawyer before I really found my passion for being a hero, you know, so those trials usually don't take long but they're exhausting all the same. And then of course you get the villain attacks that come out of nowhere so you always have to be ready to fight in whatever clothes you have and with whatever you have on you, which isn't too bad for me since I can use my Quirk to make weapons I need. But I guess my daily schedule varies from day to day, based on whatever the villains want to do and what the police need from me.

**Q:** Do you ever regret becoming a pro hero? I mean, surely it can't be easy, especially with the increase in crime lately that you've seen. You've faced more hard battles in the last few years than Japan has seen in history.

**A:** No, I will never ever regret becoming a pro hero. Yes, it's hard and we get hurt badly and we feel guilty about those we couldn't save and we will carry that guilt for a long time, for the rest of our lives quite possibly, but I will always love being a pro hero. If I had chosen something else to do with my life, then there would be one less person fighting crime out there and more people could have gotten hurt and lost their lives, and I would be completely helpless to fight as well. Besides, we get to have fun too, doing these interviews and such, so even though it's hard, it's not always fighting and getting hurt. It is always worth any amount of pain to be a pro hero and I wouldn't have it any other way.



WORKOUT ROUTINE: SQUAD GOALS



# WHERE "THE BIG THREE" ARE TODAY

Pro heroes formerly known as "The Big Three" at Japan's most acclaimed hero school, UA Academy, have made many advancements in their careers since they graduated. The question we're exploring is how have they improved their lives and hero careers since graduating from UA? Luckily, we were able to ask each member of The Big Three: Lemillion, Suneater, and Nejire-chan, legal names being Togata Mirio, Amajiki Tamaki, and Nejire Hadou respectively, some questions regarding their current status as heroes.

After graduating from high school, they decided to open their own agency, TreTerra, meaning three trillion, to pay homage to their high school title. Their agency has been successful throughout the years it has been open and has provided a job for over one hundred intern, debuting, and pro heroes.

When asked about why the group decided to pursue creating their own agency, Lemillion answered, "We wanted to do something good for our community and for other people like us. Our decision to put in the work to build a new place for heroes to work brought us closer together as friends, partners, and heroes. Even though there's been bumps along the way, we don't regret our decision in running this agency."

This was a refreshing statement to hear after so many agencies have collapsed due to the founders losing interest in the upkeep. Aside from their dedication to their agency, the three heroes also have set aside time to volunteer in various locations. They each have chosen a type of volunteering that suits their own personal interests and strengths, so they can continue to pay it forward even when they're solo.

Lemillion has already put countless hours into helping the students at UA with their training.

Every other week, he visits the school and performs different tests and mock battles with them to help them prepare themselves for the pro hero scene, much like he did for the students in the famous Class 1-A when he was a third-year at the academy.

Suneater coordinates with a local restaurant to put together a special and filling meal once a week for the homeless in the area, which has been a booming success in the year the program has been in existence. People from all around have donated to the restaurant and have even put money toward a nearby homeless shelter due to the program.

"I want to provide good food for people who don't get to experience it, and I'm very fortunate to be able to give that. As a hero, I usually don't get to help people in their day-to-day lives, but in dire situations, so being able to provide a life staple to these people is really a dream come true to me," Suneater explained. We were touched by his statement and his dedication to helping those around him. Even with his quiet and reserved manner, unlike his work partners, he's been an inspiration to those around him.

Nejire-chan has decided her way of helping out with the community is best done through something she enjoys greatly--speaking. She has

performed numerous presentations, which she describes as a sort of pep talk for people of all ages and quirk strengths. Her goal is to make everyone feel like they have something to offer to the world, regardless of what those around them think of them. When asked why she decided on this specific path, she responded with, "I used to have no filter when I was in high school. I said everything that was on my mind, whether it was kind or not, without thinking about how it may affect the people around me. When someone pointed out this fault, I got to thinking about how I could turn this personality trait of mine on its head to help people instead. Some of the girls I met at UA helped me--I told a couple of them some things that hurt them for a long time, but they still gave me more chances--and they used what I said to them as a means to think up this new goal. There are some kids out there who think they're no good because they aren't powerful enough or they have horns or wings that make them stand out. My goal is to take those things about them and make them feel good about them."

Each of the three heroes have put an incredible amount of care and energy into their careers and volunteering, which makes them great role models for the future generation of pro heroes.

We asked them what it was like to be considered the



most powerful students at UA during their time there, and what that opportunity did to influence them in the present day.

Lemillion's response was, "It was definitely stressful, but it helped all of us learn how to be at the top and not let that title get to our heads. Being at the top isn't a privilege, but a responsibility. Others look up to you, even if you drop in the ranks, because you were once considered the best. And even if you are the 'best,' you need to know that there's still improvements to be made."

The interviewers during this segment were in awe of his response, and the other two heroes in the trio seemed to be surprised by it too. Neither of them knew how to follow up, and agreed with Lemillion's statement.

What we can learn from The Big Three's experiences and statements is there's always room to be better. As a society, we can learn to be better, even when we think we are good enough. They've exceeded everyone's expectations, by not only co-owning an agency together, but also volunteering individually and acting as heroes in more ways than one. They represent what a true hero should be like.

We hope to see more incredible achievements from the "The Big Three," and hope to see their programs and agency blossom. They have the potential to do even greater things, with help from other current heroes and potential heroes-in-training. The well-esteemed UA Academy was a huge piece in the three heroes' experience and should continue to be supported in the coming years.

Not only should The Big Three be thanked for their good deeds, but every hero. Without them, our society would not be what it is today.



# TOKYO 20XX Pro Heroes Ground Zero and Red Riot debut their new line of merch at the center of Tokyo Fashion Week!



# SUPPORT ITEMS

What the heroes think



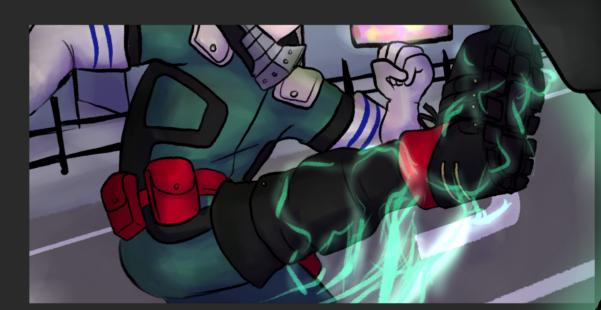
Hero: Deku

Age: 20

Agency: Nighteye

"There are lots of heroes who don't use support items, but they're surprisingly useful! I think it's good for pro heroes to take advantage of the support agencies. They're here to help us after all!"

"My steel toe covers and knee covers help me power through my shoot style kicks so without the support gear I'd probably be out of commission. Haha!"



#### and a shoutout...

"If you're going to use support items I highly recommend Mei Hatsume, definitely! She's quirky but she is skilled in what she does. Don't underestimate her."



# ON THE HIGH SEAS

#### with Pro-Hero Anima

Travel Correspondent Nate Nox

Kouda Koji has always been the long shot, just ask any bookie.

A quiet and thoughtful man, his road to heroing wasn't easy, even with a start at the famed (or perhaps, infamous) UA.

But here in the deadly Southern Sea?

He's exactly what our planet needs

Dawn is barely breaking when a sudden change in heading wakes me. It takes another fifteen minutes to pry myself out of bed, manage something resembling grooming and dressing, and make my way up to the deck of the 59-meter Kyuuju Maru, which has been my home for the last two weeks.

As soon as I step out, I'm hit with a bracing gust of icy sea spray and the sounds of heroes at work. It only takes a moment to find my quarry; There, on the far side of the deck, Pro-Hero Anima is doing what he does best: using his quirk to fight for some of our most vulnerable planetary peers.

This morning, our patient is a juvenile fin whale.

Even though he's not yet fully grown, the whale vocalizing at our starboard bow is already an impressive 10-meters. As I reach the railing, the source of his distress is clear: somewhere in his journeys, he's managed to pick up a buoy, probably from an illegal fishing venture. The impediment makes him vulnerable to predators and impacts his diving while the ropes leave painful lashmarks across his skin.

As I try to get shots of the action, one of Anima's interns happily fills me in on the history of the species and points out the adult whales watching our leader as he soothes their wayward child. The whole pod is here, drawn by Anima's special animal-only broadcasts and offers of help.

Anima is the primary point of contact between our mission and the animals we work with, but everyone here has a purpose. After all, a good team is critical in hero work, even here at the edge of the world.

Anima recruits creatures of air and sea, sometimes for information gathering and sometimes

as patients. The navigation team uses a mix of quirks and high-tech equipment to reach the headings laid out by our forward scouts (both human and animal). Once a client is located, Anima interviews them and feeds information to either the veterinarian or rescue team, depending on the type of ailment and method of treatment.

Today, it's the rescue team's turn to shine.

It takes them less than an hour to perform a miracle. Anima keeps the whales calm, the skipper keeps the vessel steady, and a young intern (Code Name: Arctic Tern), uses his quirk to dive into the water and cut away the mooring lines. All the while, Anima, a man who never sought to lead, holds the reins.

As the pod of grateful and graceful mammals swim off, we're treated to the suspended rainbows of their breaching blowholes. After a few snaps, I give up on capturing the image and focus on just appreciating the moment.

My guides seem to approve.

We're in the last leg of my deployment and I still haven't managed to get the captain for his one-on-one interview. With deadlines looming, I finally manage to corner the poor man. Our interview takes place in his cabin, a large room made modest by the frankly impressive number of animals stowed away. There's cats, mice, fish, and even a pair of injured albatrosses. Usually, patients are in and out in days, but when an animal needs special care, my host has no problem giving up his own quarters for the cause. We spend the first five minutes of the interview surveying the surrounding animals, but as soon as the talk of critters ceases, so does his voice.

His reputation for shyness precedes him.



A man of few words, it's not hard to see why this remote posting suits the UA alumni. I have a hard time imagining him surviving in the same class as some of his better-known peers (who among us will ever forget the Sports Festival debut of the so-called "cursed class" of UA?), but he's quick to correct me.

"Oh, no! It's...everyone is like family, and like family, it can be loud without being too frightening." He knits his fingers together before continuing. "Honestly, it's because of heroes like Deku and Earphone Jack that I'm able to be a Pro today. The whole class supported me. I wouldn't trade my placement with them for anything."

He relaxes, talking about his former classmates clearly helping him relax. Although I have to scoot my chair closer a few times, the interview proceeds surprisingly well.

So, you mentioned how much your louder classmates helped you. Anything else you credit with your success today?

Absolutely. Therapy. I have a wonderful cognitive behavioral therapist that I work with to manage my social anxiety. After all, it's hard to be a hero if you let anxiety get the best of you.

You're very open with that. What do you think about mental health stigma in Japan and hero society today?

I think it's starting to turn, and that's a great thing. Being involved in an attack, as a hero, bystander, victim, or even villain, is traumatic. Too many heroes from previous generations have lost themselves out of a fear of getting help. Being at the forefront is hard, but I hope my story inspires people to get out there to self-advocate.

Speaking of saving the world, tell me more about your work here. What I've seen is certainly breathtaking. How did you come into this calling?

Actually that connects back to the last question! During my hero internship, I struggled a lot with my feelings and needs. I felt like I was close to being a real hero, and all the sudden, I was terrified that I couldn't actually do it. That I'd freeze the minute I was at a crowded crime scene. There was a routine call that got a little out of control, and... well, I panicked, honestly.

Once the villain was handled, I just...ran away. Found myself at the harbor, wanting to listen to the waves. But, while I was moping, I heard a call for help. One that only I could answer. There was a seal that had been caught in some mooring lines and was just...terrified. Suddenly, I was back in hero mode, and it was just...so comfortable. There I was, covered in seal poo and mud, cooing at this freaked out juvenile, when none other than Pro Hero Selkie appeared.

#### No. I can imagine that was mortifying.

Yes. I was so flustered. But he must have seen something in me, or maybe my mentor (or his intern, Froppy) had mentioned me. But he just offered me a clean towel and a new perspective on heroing. He reminded me that hero work wasn't always urban, and didn't have to be. That's something I lost sight of while at Yuuie. I spent the next summer interning with him on the coast, and I knew I'd found my calling.

#### So, do you have any favorite missions to share with our readers?

Oh, there's so many. I mean, any rescue that ends happy is great, but I'd have to say, those moments where we know it's our intervention that saved lives are the greatest. Though catching poachers is powerful too, in a bittersweet way.

#### Have an example?

Absolutely! My first of those was a few years ago. We found a heavily pregnant minke in clear distress. Her calf was overdue, but positioned in a fatal way. Any other day, with any other crew, they both would have died. But we intervened, and that was...something special. Everyone on this ship has an advanced certification of some kind. Arctic rescue swimming, veterinary medicine, crisis counseling, you name it. We don't just rely on just quirks here.

Anyway, I was able to hear her just...tragic calls for help, and at that point we had three people with advanced vet degrees. Between a farm animal, marine, and exotic vet, we were able to cobble together a whale-specific neonatal process that we thought might work. We got our divers in and were able to actually turn the calf and get him out safely. We actually ran across him again last year, still happily following his mama around.

#### That sounds rewarding. What made that rescue so special?

Well, we know we're doing good work out here, on the whole, but it's not always so obvious. For example, most of our calls are for stomach pumping or line entanglement. Plastics and fishing lines are the bane of our existence, but sometimes animals can free themselves. We've seen gulls and seals self-rescue from plastics. Even seen elder sea turtles, warning the youngsters off the plastic bags (mistaken for jellyfish) that tend to kill new hatchlings.

But no one else could have gotten that birth done smoothly. Marine obstetrics just...don't happen. So knowing that we were their only hope, and that we were successful, was really powerful. Plus, pioneering techniques is always fun. We even made it into some veterinary science and rescue journals.

#### Any heroes you look up to?

Can I say all of them? No? Well, then I'd have to go with Ibara Shiozaki, better known as Vine! We didn't interact much at UA, but she's engaging in some amazing direct action, specifically against palm oil plantations. Really heroic stuff.

#### What would you say to someone looking to be a hero? Maybe someone struggling socially?

It's going to be hard, but worth it. Lean on the people around you and the professionals available in your community, and know that you aren't alone.

For everyone else, being a hero starts every day when you wake up in the morning. You don't have to have a powerful quirk to save the world. One of the vets on that minke birth? Totally quirkless. And unathletic. But she has a great brain and heart and drive, and that's all she needed to help us save lives. You have the power to change the earth for the better, every single day.

#### Any tips for our readers on making your job easier?

Please, if you take away anything from this article, phase out your use of single-use plastics. 80% of my days are spent helping fish, mammals, and birds throw up nasty bits of fast-food wrapping and single-use packaging.

Convenience is great, but not when it costs the life of another being. Metal, wood, cardboard, and even hard plastic and silicone straws are a great option, and similar substitutions are available for everything from takeaway containers to grocery bags.

We'd love to have all of you join the Anima Hero Team! All that's required is an open heart and a focus on thoughtful consumption. We might even get decoder rings!

#### Good to know. We'll be sure to spread that message to the readers. Any plans for the future?

We've talked about adding on to the rescue fleet, and we're in talks with a few hero and general education schools the Oceania region to take on more interns. Other than that, we'll just keep enjoying the beauty around us and the beings we get a chance to help out here.

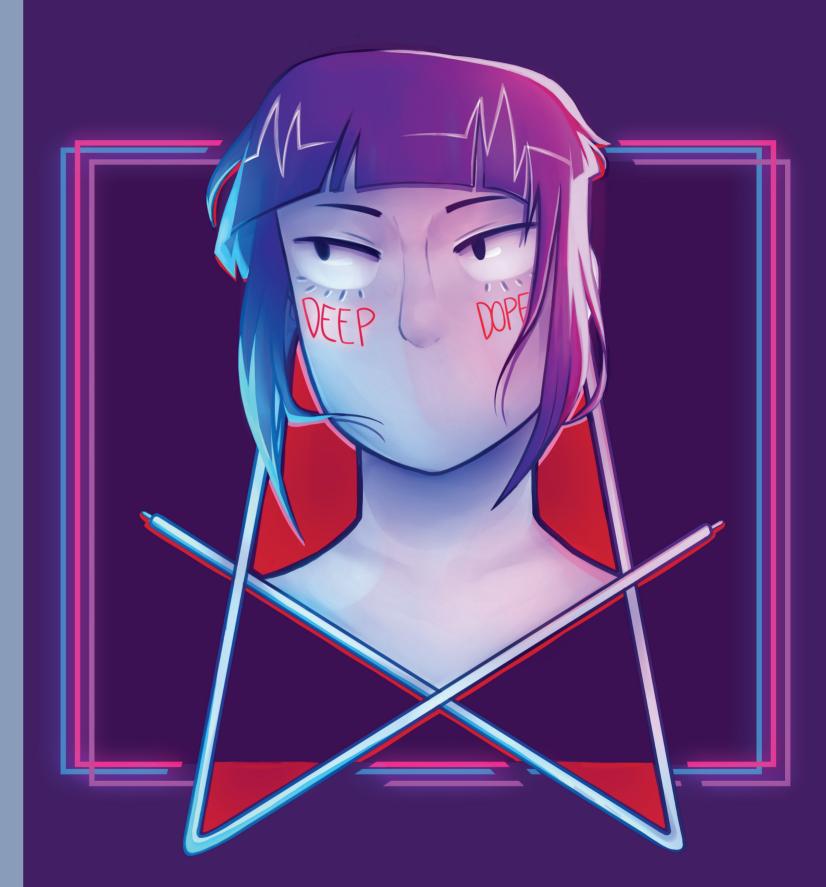
#### No action figures then?

Ha, oh no. Not unless there's a sudden spike in my popularity. And advances in non-plastic toy manufacturing.

Our interview ends, with Anima still blushing rather impressively at the thought of new merch.. Still, here in the middle of nowhere, it's easy to see consumerism through his eyes.

I don't know that I'll be able to live up to the potential Koji Kouda sees in me, but it's appealing to try. I'll still be grabbing my yearned-for chai latte when we dock, but first I'll dig out my old reusable travel mug. After all, I've made friends with some of these creatures over the last two weeks, and decent friends don't trash each other's homes.

It's the dawn of a new day, and with Koji Kouda leading the way, maybe we really can make a better world. One change at a time.



coming soon 20XX

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# SHIGARAKI S RESOLVE SHOULD SERVE AS A CATALYST TO BETTER YOURSELF AND THE ENVIRONMENT!

Pollution is a worldwide dilemma that plagues our everyday lives.

No matter what regulations the government implements, or programs to rejuvenate the environment, there is little effect on people who don't take responsibility. There are dump sites littered around the country, and be responsibility. There are dump sites littered around the country, and because to the increase of collateral damage from hero work, they are being

discarded everywhere, left in disarray due to the upkeep...

Today, we interviewed Tomura Shigaraki, an upstart leading an environmental rehabilitation movement, to hear his views about this situation.

> "At first, I started cleaning up trash piles out of spite," he says, upon being asked why he started this organization. "Because heroes nowadays are obsessed with ALL the glory, so they forget the more crucial things." (His vengeful tone never changes, though we must say, from past interviews, it lacks the bite it once had.)

"Well, that's one reason anyway. Back then, heaps of junk served as some sort of emotional outlet. I was unstable and easily irritated, as you all know, and I didn't want to revert to my old habits." He goes silent, as he ruminates to himself.

"As time passed, while I disintegrated more and more trash, my surroundings became a lot more tidy and breathable. It dawned upon me that my raw 'emo' outbursts actually had a contribution, you know." He snickers at that.

"That was when I realized that the destruction I had - all that negativity could be converted into something productive, for the betterment of the world, I guess. The same goes for people out there whose quirks only seem to cause chaos. I needed to clean my act, after all."

After a short contemplative moment he was quick to go back to his snappy self. But I didn't want everyone to rely on me solely to clean up their stinking garbage... that's counterproductive. I wanted people to open up their f\*\*\*ing eyes and do something about their environment.

We asked him how they make that happen.

"Well, we have some unorthodox methods. But nothing illegal." He almost grins at that. "We do a lot of pep talks, demonstrations, and some effective intimidation.'

We decided not to press that further, because it was true, he has gathered 500,000 volunteers with his relatively ethical ways. The program also reached out to give prisoners temporary jobs and rehabilitation. Multiple ex-villains turn to Shigaraki's program to do recreational yet impactful

> It is even said that the members, split into teams, develop a close bond through their missions. Differences like social standing and quirk prowess are set aside as the sole objective is simply helping the environment.

> A volunteer claims that there's something incredibly purposeful about being able to be a hero through these simple acts.

You don't need to be strong, intelligent, or cunning, you just need to have vour heart in the right place.

"We also have a campaign where if you buy our game, you'll be funding us to clean up your trash!" Shigaraki chides. "Or just

join us instead, and do something productive for once."

Their game is called Shadows Die Once, a brutal platformer game designed to give the players hell. We don't know how it's related to his organization's mission, but as of now it's the only way for civilians to fund them. Get your copy now!

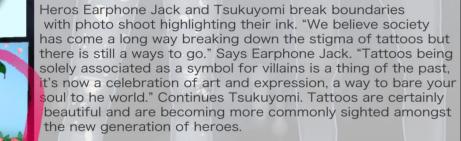
> **GET YOUR COPY NOW** @WWW.SHADOWS.DIE.COM



### 入れ墨 **INKED HEROES**

GroundZero and Red Riot were spotted outside a tattoo parlor just two days ago. Now seen with bandages while out for a run, could those be matching tattoos?!

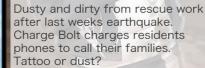


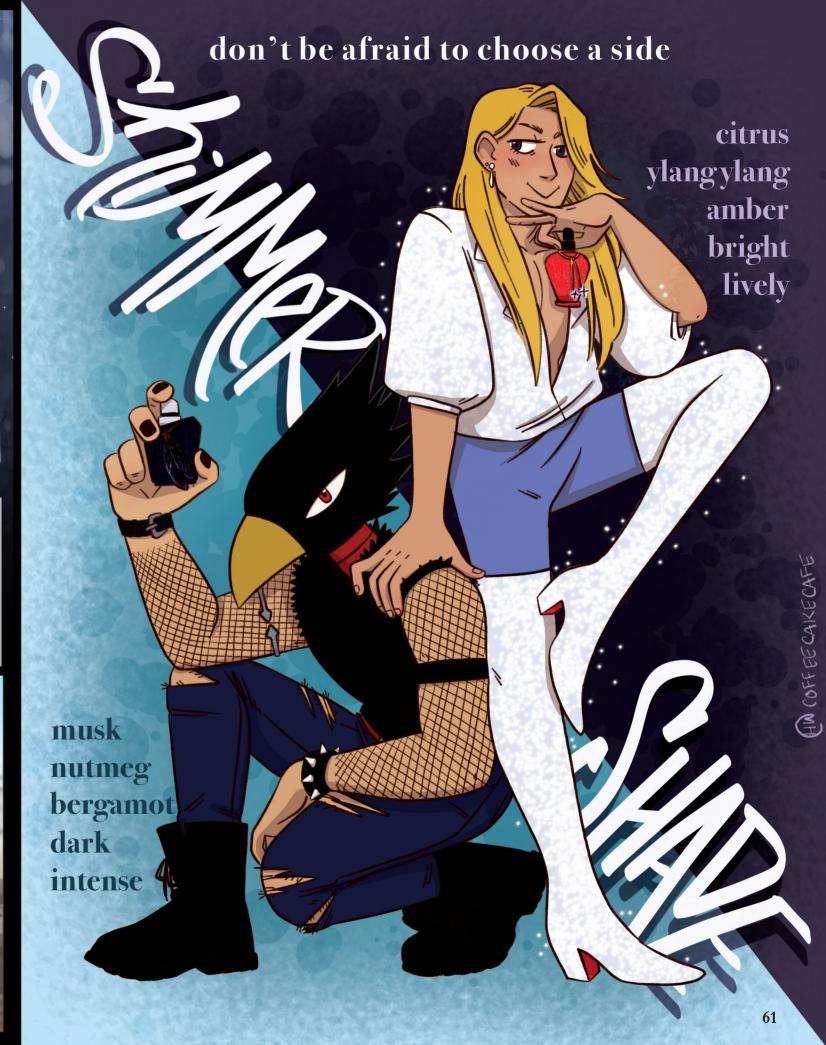






During battle one of Todoroki's wrist bands was torn off revealing a tattoo of white roses reportedly worn in memory of his mother.







# CATCHING UP WITH THE CLASS 1-A GIRLS

Ever wondered what the side gigs of your favorite heroes are?
YOU asked and WE found some answers!

#### Toru Hagakure

Online news sites call her "the most unrecognizable face in fashion" yet despite that cheap attack, Toru Hagakure is becoming a well-known name in cutesy, girly fashion, especially Lolita. When she's not absorbed in her hero work, she loves to coordinate Lolita outfits, also known as "Coords" for short, and is even working on her own clothing line. She says she picked the name after hearing it in a J-POP song. Her brand, "Baby Maybe", is due to be released in the Spring of next year.

#### Tsuyu Asui

Another growing name in underwater fashion is Tsuyu Asui. What started as a charity photoshoot to raise money for an ocean cleanup has led to a whole new career in a niche only Tsu can fill. She claims that a disastrous ocean spill from last year that left a coastal aquatic biosystem a wreck was what incited her to look into other ways to raise funds for charity work. "I was never really interested in it before," Tsu says, "But when I heard about the modeling fundraiser, I figured it would be worth a shot, and it really grew on me!"

Modeling may have been an undiscovered passion for Tsuyu but her true passion has always been for the environment. Aside from doing physical hero work, Tsuyu is also an everyday hero advocating for our aquatic habitats. She has grown into a popular poster child for "No Littering!" PSAs.

#### Mina Ashido

Mina Ashido started out as a Youtuber doing weird and often risky activities, including everything from eating weird foods to viral social media challenges to filming prank videos. She originally began as a streamer, recording her hero work, including fights and confrontations. Her light-hearted attitude, bright energy, and humor often made people feel at ease. Some clips from her stream have even been included in "Year's Funniest Villain Confrontation" compilations.

She got her big break when a representative from the BIZARRO! TV network reached out to Mina upon seeing her work online and asked her to host their latest Variety Show, "Acid Trip!" The network executives claim that the two are like a match made in heaven. "Acid Trip!" has similar bits to her old youtube channel, including the "weird and dangerous" food challenges (which typically involved sour, spicy, and acidic foods), but also introduces new features such as speed quizzes with punishment games for wrong answers, live comedy bits, and other games with a variety of guests that include, but are not limited to, other pro heroes, celebrities, comedians, J-POP idols, and so on!





#### Momo Yaoyorozu

Momo Yaoyorozu collaborates with architects to design the inside rooms of the latest modern buildings, often using furniture she made herself using her creation Quirk. She scours through many magazines and furniture catalogs for inspiration. When asked about any difficulties in her line of work, she says, "There is the occasional bump in the road where a company will get mad that an item was recreated without payment so we tend to avoid recreating the item exactly as they did. I often like to add my own flair to the things I make!" She is also working on an etiquette book based on her posh up-

When asked about being seen at a Women's Rights Parade with Ochaco and why she felt such was necessary, she says, "Men can easily become villains unintentionally, or even intentionally, all because they don't know how to properly approach or address a woman. They might never see themselves like this, but the women they've hurt will remember them as everyday villains for the rest of their lives."

bringing.

#### Ochaco Uraraka

Having learned martial arts during her time at UA High from Pro Hero Gunhead, Ochaco Uraraka continues to give lessons alongside him in her spare time. She does self-defense classes every Tuesday and Thursday evening at his dojo. Thursdays are said to be specifically geared towards women. When asked about this, she says that women experience significantly more physical and sexual harassment than men all over the world. Quirkless women are especially at risk.

"My friend Momo would always say that we need to teach our boys better, and I agree. Martial arts is a good way to protect yourself but also to teach boundaries, and until boys learn how to respect girls' boundaries, I'll be here teaching them how to do it themselves." When asked more about Momo's civil rights work, Ochaco says, "I don't really understand politics, but I do understand that we are still fighting for civil rights in this day and time. I'm just trying to help in the way that I can."

#### Kyouka Jirou

Earphone Jack is more than Kyouka Jirou's Pro Hero Name, it's also her stage name when she performs her latest songs for thousands of adoring fans! Raised by music-loving parents, they were absolutely elated when they discovered they also had a music-loving child. "[My parents] made me love music, especially rock," says Kyouka, "We were definitely a rock household. Everyone knew how to play an instrument. Some of my fondest memories are of us during a jam session."

Earphone Jack's newest album, "JACKED UP", is said to dip into new sub-genres of rock, metal, and techno combinations. It is set to drop at the end of summer this year!

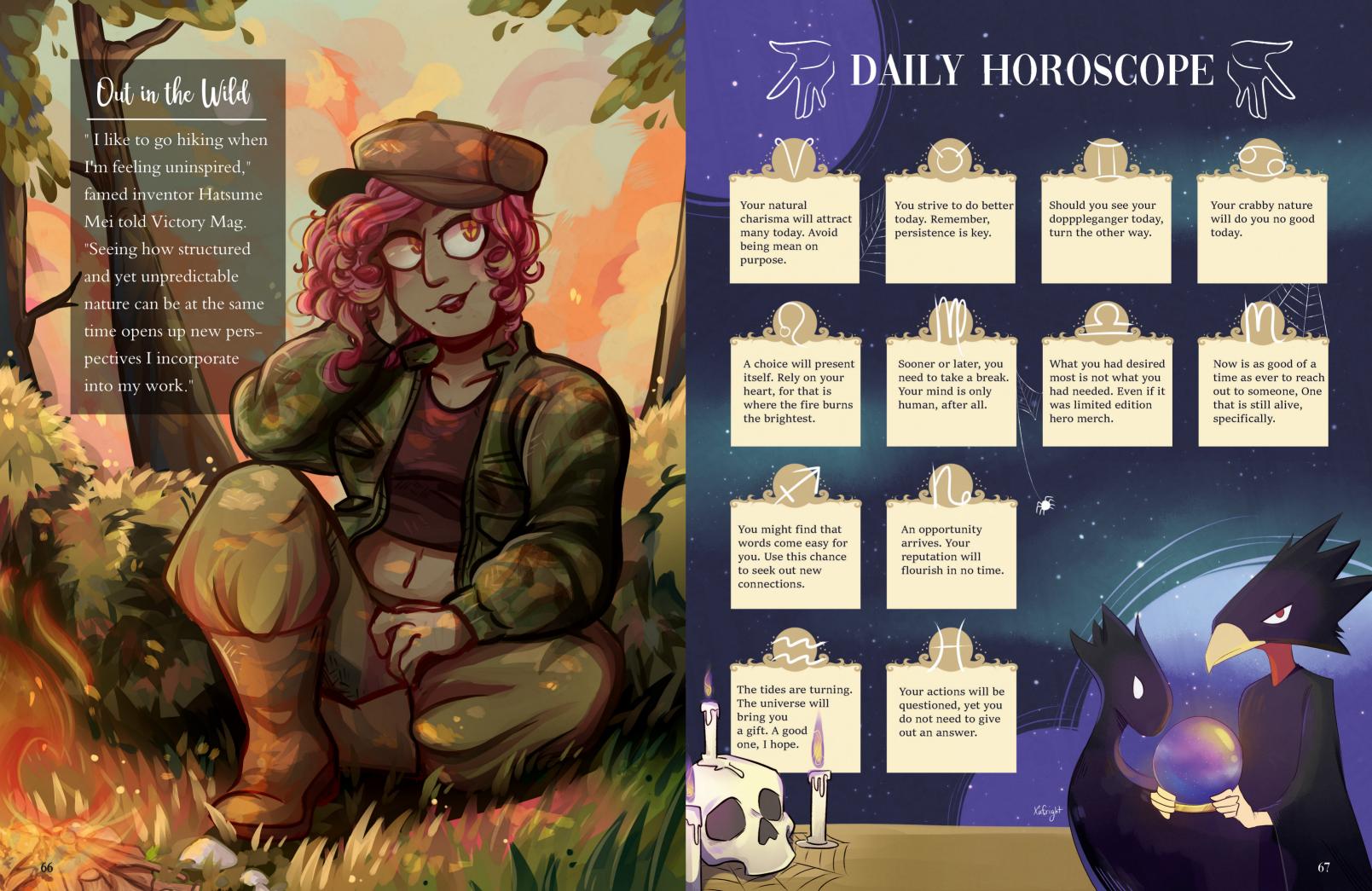




#### ERASERHEAD'S CHOICE!



"I'm going to kill you, Nezu." — Eraserhead, Pro Hero "He really does drink it." — Nezu, UA Principal





By now, there is not a single soul that doesn't know of the pro heroes Uravity and Froppy's friendship. It's a topic brought up over and over again every time the two are caught together.

But, is it more than just friendship? Just a few days ago, the pair was caught walking together at the nearby park, bodies pressed close to each other, smiles on their faces.

As caught in the picture, Uravity has her arm wrapped around Froppy's waist, a soft smile present on lips.

"It was like they're in love," says a witness. "I saw it in Uravity's eyes. It's clear."

Frienship or more, no one can deny that Uravity and Froppy love each other.







Uravity can be seen here sharing ice cream with her senior, Nejire-chan! Both of them are Yuuei alumni, as well as former sidekicks to Ryukyu. Could something have



onning matching hairstyles, we found Uravity together with her former classmate Chargebolt at the arcade, Doesn't it look like he is trying to win her over



same gym. Is it just a coincidence, or could it be that these lovebirds just want to spend some time together as they work out? Either way, we think they'd make for a cute couple!



Not long after graduation, Earph Jack and Uravity were seen in several music shops all over town. The sightings have become less frequent lately, but

pro-heroes are often uncover the truth selective with the information they share with the public, but Uravity has always enjoyed a certain openness with her fanbase. On her posted several hints regarding her assumed sexuality and past relationships, but thus far nothing has been confirmed. With no official information being released from Uravity's agency, we went back through our own archives to

behind Uravity's lively dating history.

What do you think? Has Uravity really been around as much as it seems? Or is she just Instagram page she has very friendly with her peers?

For now, we'll just have to wait until her agency permits her to release her actual dating information.



## INTERVIEW WITH DEKU

Hello, readers! This summer season has been full of sizzling, salacious drama. From breakups to makeups, we've run hundreds of exclusive headlines for everyone to see. Today, we have even more exciting news for all of you! Through some of our connections in the industry, we managed to score an invite to the hottest party of the summer – Pro Hero Deku's birthday fête!

Deku, who has occupied the slot of #1 Upcoming Hero for the past several months, first made a name for himself as All Might's young protégé. However, since All Might's tragic retreat from the world of heroes, Deku has gone on to establish himself among the strongest of this new generation of Pros. A noted advocate for Quirkless citizens' rights and donor to post-rescue recovery, Deku is not only one of the most powerful Pro Heroes of today, but also one of the sweetest. His charity efforts were not-

ed recently by a fan poll in our May issue describing the most impactful things heroes have done this year. Twitter user @dekusmaash, who runs a prominent Deku fan account, wrote in a Tweet this past month that amassed over three-hundred thousand likes: "Having heroes who discuss Quirklessness is so important, y'all. My brother was born Quirkless and has struggled w/ it his entire life. Deku has given him sm courage and self-love, & it's amazing to see."

Aside from the birthday boy himself, the party sported a star studded roster, from figures like Ground Zero, Deku's rival for the #1 position, to Ingenium, the head of the Iida family dynasty and heir to his brother's legacy. Other Heroes were also spotted enjoying the big bash, including Lemillion, Suneater, and Nejire-chan, whose efforts to recuperate civilians after last year's earthquake earned them a humanitarian award



from the City Council. Attached is a photo we snuck of the famous trio, all smiles and cozied up for the camera.



The party wasn't the only exciting thing about that night, though — near the middle of the party, we were able to track Deku down for an exclusive five minute interview. He was flanked by Uravity, Ingenium, and Ground Zero, who were all dressed to the nines in their civilian apparel, showing off Hosu street fashion and their own personal styles.

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Deku was standing near the wall, sipping on a glass of water, when we were able to talk to him. Wanting to start off the interview with the most basic of questions, I asked: "So, Deku-san, how are you enjoying the party?"

He looked up from his drink, startled, but gave me one of his famous smiles when he saw my face. Absolutely dreamy! "It's great, thank you! I'm so glad to be able to host so many amazing people."

I couldn't help but blush! Deku's famed charm is clearly warranted – he had me swooning on my feet throughout the whole interview.

Still, dear readers, there was a scoop to be got, and I had a job to do. For you, I steadied myself and continued on. "You've occupied the #1 spot for best Upcoming Hero for several months now, but in the past you and Ground Zero-san have alternated having the position. Shouto-san has also been vying for the it over the past few years. How does it feel being the one on top right now? Satisfying?"

In the background, Ground Zero snorted into his cup. Their rivalry — and hero partnership — has been the subject of much inquiry after Deku let it slip last year that they've been friends since childhood, and that his nickname for Ground Zero is Kacchan! How cute, albeit unexpected!

"Uh... haha, well, it definitely has been satisfying because I've been working really hard," said Deku. "Kacchan and Todoroki-san are both really strong, and we're all doing our best to keep up the hard work. But I'm not giving it up that easily!"

Ahh, so modest! Well, if Deku isn't willing to explain himself, we certainly are. Following in his mentor's footsteps, Deku has successfully dismantled five villain organizations over the past two years. His work — which led to the arrests of more than twenty fugitives — has earned him countless accolades and praise from heroes and civilians alike. His competitors haven't been sleeping, either; just this past week, Ground Zero took down one of Japan's most wanted villains in an era-defining battle televised worldwide. Similarly, Shouto worked together with Creati to dismantle the drug trafficking ring responsible for the attacks on Shibuya last month.

Still, for now it seems that Deku is holding onto his title. Regardless of any changes that will unfold over the next few months, Deku will always be the #1 Hero in our hearts. Good luck, Deku! We're cheering for you!

One thing all of you readers probably know about Deku is his reputation for keeping his personal life under wraps. Always a man of mystery, he has hardly any casual photos on his social media, and even fewer with friends. His reasoning? "Any villain could use my personal attachments against me," he explained in an interview last December. "I wouldn't want to put the people I love in danger, even if I want to tell the world how much they mean to me."

So considerate! Whoever those special people are, they're lucky to share such a close relationship with Deku! All of his fans wish we could say the same~

No matter how adorable his protectiveness is, we think it's a bit of a cop out. Since the rise in crime caused by All Might's retirement, the entire country has worried over who would be able to step up to the plate and clean up the streets. Since Deku and his generation's debut, however, the national crime rate has fallen by a whopping ten percent.

With the city out of immediate peril, surely Deku could stand to divulge a few little details for our exclusive interview, right? Well, it's my job to ask -- and ask I did.

"On another front, what's going on in your personal life? Anyone special on the side?" I inquired hopefully.

Deku blushed, looking to someone waiting on the sidelines. "Um... no comment."

How cute! It seems he might be hiding a special something -- or someone -- on the side after all. It was

impossible to tell who he was looking at, but many of the party's attendees were his former classmates from U.A. Is it possible that Deku has been hiding a scandalous romance since his teenage years?

When I saw his embarrassment, I knew I had to keep asking. "You've been seen out in public with many other prominent heroes, most frequently your partner Ground Zero, but also Uravity, Ingenium, and even Froppy. Would it be unfair to suggest that your sweetheart is among that group?"



"Haha, c'mon," said Deku awkwardly, rubbing the back of his neck as his tanned cheeks went even redder. "I already said no comment."

Rats! Well, it looked like Deku wasn't going to elaborate, so I gave it up. "Right, right," I joked. "We'll get it out of you someday."

Looking down at the time, I couldn't help but sigh. Our time was sadly running out, and I didn't want to keep Deku away from his party for too long. But even though I knew the interview had to end, there was still one more thing I — and the rest of the world — wanted to know.

"So, what are your plans for the future?" I questioned. "You've achieved it all – you're the #1 Hero, beloved by the masses, and you've helped to create a safer world for all of us. What's next on your agenda?"

"I want to keep improving," Deku replied, green eyes glinting with determination. How cool! "I might be the #1 hero, but I'm not the symbol of peace All Might was yet. I don't know if I ever will be individually, but I want us as a community to get to the point where my fellow Pros and I can fill the void he left behind and make him truly proud to have left the world in our hands."

Aww. Absolutely heartwarming. We can't wait to see what Deku and his friends do next, and we know All Might would be thrilled to know that his students are leading Japan into a new age of peace and prosperity.

There you have it, readers! That's all the time we had for the interview. We'd like to extend a huge thanks to Deku for putting up with our questions, and we hope everyone joins us next time for a road safety PSA led by none other than Red Riot and Chargebolt!



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VICTORY MAG WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A SPECIAL THANKS TO ANYONE WHO PURCHASE OR CONTRIBUTED TO THIS ZINE. FROM THE BOTTOM OF OUR HEARTS...

# THANK YOU.

